

helped him maintain his down-to-earth style that was, in many ways, GLENN POSHARD's best attribute.

As a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I had the occasion to work on a number of issues with my fellow committee member, GLENN POSHARD. He was always approachable and willing to work together on issues that were of vital interest to the State of Illinois. Whether it was aviation or highways, GLENN POSHARD was always knowledgeable and ready to do what was best for Illinois.

I am proud to have served in the House with GLENN POSHARD. He leaves this House with many friends and many good memories. I wish him all the best in whatever endeavor he chooses to participate.

IN HONOR OF LEONARD SOMDAHL

### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, December 19, 1998*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Leonard Somdahl, a good friend and a man dedicated to the economic betterment of his community.

On a day fraught with solemn, weighty and sad decisions, it's important to recognize the Americans in whose names we vote today, Americans who raise their families and work to make America strong. Leonard Somdahl is one such American.

Leonard Somdahl was born and raised in Minnesota. He moved to the San Joaquin Valley in California in 1946, then migrated south to Ventura County. He worked for McMann Furniture, then went into business for himself. Thirty-one years ago, he started with First American Title Co. He retired from First American in August, but hasn't stopped working.

I met Leonard during my years in the real estate business. His dedication to his profession and the business community impressed me. In addition to his dedication to First American, Leonard Somdahl took an active role in the Building Industry Association, Ventura County Chapter; the Ventura County Economic Development Association; the Christian Business Men's Committee in Santa Barbara and Ventura; and the Ventura County Taxpayers Association. As a member of the International Right of Way Association, he held all chairs and ultimately became president of Santa Barbara Chapter 47.

Non-industry groups have also benefited from his generosity. Leonard Somdahl has participated as an active board member and charter member of Network for Housing, a nonprofit group to support affordable housing in Ventura County; is a past member of the Y's men's club and a financial support group for YMCA activities; and is a past volunteer for the Oxnard Boys Club. He has donated to such groups as Navajo schools in Arizona, the Lions Club, Muscular Dystrophy, the American Cancer Society, the Ventura County Rescue Mission, and City Impact, an organization to help young people get off drugs and improve their self-esteem.

Leonard Somdahl is also a dedicated family man. He and his wife, Ellen, have raised a daughter and three sons. The couple have five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in recognizing Leonard Somdahl for his decades of service and wish him and his family Godspeed in his retirement.

MEMORIALIZING MRS. JUDITH  
BRAUN, A'H

### HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, December 19, 1998*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a constituent who was beloved in our community, Mrs. Alte Rivka Braunn, a'h.

Mrs. Braun was the devoted wife of Rabbi Shlomo Braun, and was the daughter of Rabbi Moshe Yehudah Gross, famous shochet during the last 30 years at Empire Kosher Poultry. She born in Czechoslovakia to parents who were Holocaust survivors. They fled Czechoslovakia and emigrated to America in 1968. Even under communist rule, Mrs. Braun exhibited strong inner faith and a personal generosity of spirit, accepting everything cheerfully. These attributes remained strong and enduring throughout her life.

Mrs. Braun was very active with Aleh, an organization which provides services to the developmentally disabled. I have visited their facilities in Israel and can attest to the outstanding work they do. In recognition of her dedication to the work of Aleh, Mrs. Braun was memorialized at the annual Aleh luncheon held on May 17, 1998 (21 Iyar).

Additionally, Mrs. Braun spend countless hours each day helping patients in the emergency room at Maimonides Medical Center. She also found time to cook and bake for troubled families, personally delivering and serving food that she prepared in her own home.

While Mrs. Braun's home was undergoing renovation, she requested that one room be set aside for hachnasas orchim use, providing a place to stay for a traveler who has no place to stay, which is one of the highest mitzvot. She found great strength in the knowledge that her house was always utilized by guests from all over the world—from Israel, Denmark, France, Mexico, Belgium, and other countries.

During the three years of her illness, Mrs. Braun suffered untold pain. Rabbi Braun, her devoted husband, arranged for the best doctors and tried everything humanly possible to alleviate her illness. Unfortunately, that was not God's will, and Mrs. Braun passed away on the 27th day of Tishrei, last year. She left a family of six children, with four still at home. The youngest, Yaakov, is only five years old.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege of knowing the Braun family for quite a few years. The exemplary lives of Rabbi and Mrs. Braun are truly an inspiration to our neighbors for their dedication to their community and to those in need. Our community was enriched by Mrs. Braun's life and mitzvot. I commend her example to my colleagues.

TRIBUTE TO THE MIGHTY  
MENOMINEE MAROONS OF 1998

### HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, December 19, 1998*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, in the near future several signs will be erected along the main highways entering my home town of Menominee Michigan. Those signs will advise travelers that they are entering the community whose high school has won the 1998 Class BB state football title. Those signs will be a lasting legacy of the Menominee High School team's accomplishment, but they won't begin to reveal to the passing motorist the wonderful, personal stories bound with the season-long march to the championship.

Menominee is a football town, Mr. Speaker, with a gridiron tradition reaching back 105 years. Larry Ebsch, a former local newspaper editor and an inveterate sports fan, has calculated that the Menominee Maroons have played 810 games, with a winning percentage of 61.6—but not one state championship. Thousands of young men have taken the field wearing the maroon jersey, and those signs on the edge of town don't give a glimpse of those thousands of personal memories of more than 100 seasons of football. I'm sure every one of those former players had a lump in his throat and tears in his eyes thinking of the joyous welcome given to the 1998 Maroon team after their 10-hour bus ride from the Silverdome in Pontiac back to Menominee.

Another great story is that of the coach himself. Ken Hofer, by Larry Ebsch's reckoning, has coached 277 of Menominee's 810 games in a career going back to 1966. His own winning percentage is 68.2, and his teams, running the 1930s-style offense known as the single wing, have averaged 17 points per game.

None of those statistics reveal the great memories of great games that Ken Hofer and his teams have given Menominee fans, particularly memories of the rivalry between Coach Ken and his son, Coach Chris Hofer of Kingsford. The powerful Kingsford Flivvers served as an obstacle that the Maroons for years could never quite overcome. When Ken's team finally defeated Chris's team last year and Menominee advanced into the playoffs, it was evident that the Menominee team had taken the measure of its most difficult adversary and was well on its way to a championship year. That promise was fulfilled in 1998.

Coach Hofer says the seeds for final victory were planted early in the season, when the team pledged itself to reach the playoffs. It was a team supremely suited to become a championship team, Mr. Speaker, because it was built around a team ego, not individual egos. This collective ego made the 1998 Maroons a team of destiny. On the first play of the first playoff game, Josh Tarbox returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown. Then the Maroon team made a quick run of 27 points in the first five minutes, signaling clearly this team was on its way to the state championship.

Many Menominee residents were on hand in Pontiac for the fulfillment of the championship dream. Along with the cheerleaders and 113 members of the marching band, a steady procession of vehicles sporting "Go Maroons"